

Marshall County Tribune

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Thursday, November 10, 2022

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Volume 125 - No. 41

Cornersville examines annexation

By **Scott Pearson**
Associate Editor

Cornersville could be growing in size in the near future.

The Cornersville Board of Mayor and Aldermen began consideration of a pair of annexation requests at their monthly meeting last Thursday.

A pair of property owners have requested annexation into the town limits.

Owner Brenda Hasting has requested annexation for two parcels totaling approximately 150 acres on McConnell Road.

Cameron Coble has requested that the town annex the portion of a parcel he owns facing McConnell Road that is outside of the town limits, in order to bring the entire parcel into Cornersville.

Town Administrator Taylor Brandon said that Coble had indicated an intention to develop the parcel beginning next year.

Brandon added that no indication for future plans had been given for the Hasting property.

Aldermen approved a resolution to begin the process of annexation, estimated to require 60 days after details are resolved.

No vote has yet been taken on whether or not to add the parcels.

Aldermen approved advertising for vacancies both on the board of aldermen and on the town's planning commission.

Alderwoman Beth Vick stepped down from the board prior to the deadline to be removed from Tuesday's ballot. After taking a part-time position with the town, the board has the understanding that Vick will not serve on the board due to the conflict of interest.

Aldermen also approved application for a grant from the South Central Tennessee Development District which would help fund potential traffic lights at Coleman Road and New Town Road for better control of school traffic on Main Street.

GOP prevails in county, state

By **Scott Pearson**
Associate Editor

Tuesday's election brought few, if any, surprises to Marshall County or statewide.

Gov. Bill Lee easily won a second term in office against Democratic challenger Dr. Jason Martin.

Lee received just under 65% of the votes, 1,128,097 in total, to Martin's 572,153 votes.

Former Maury County Mayor Andy Ogles prevailed in the race for the redrawn 5th District House of Representatives seat.

Ogles got 6,488 votes in Marshall County to Democratic State Senator Heidi Campbell's 2012 votes.

Campbell won by a large margin in the Davidson County part of the district but Ogles' strength in Williamson County in particular, as well as the other more rural counties was too much.

Ogles finished with 123,358 votes in the new six county district to Campbell's 93,375.

Todd Warner, after defeating two Williamson County challengers in the Republican primary, earned 77% of Marshall County's vote in defeating Democratic challenger Angela Hughes.

Warner received 6,224 votes in



the county, 13,527 votes overall, to Hughes' 1,793 county votes and 4,771 votes in total.

In the lone county election, James Hopkins retained the 8th District seat on the county commission to which he was appointed earlier this year.

He defeated challenger Tara Ewing 397 votes to 263.

Hopkins finished third in the August balloting but Lynn Stocstill was unable to complete a move into the district by the deadline and could not be seated.

Three incumbent aldermen in Cornersville retained their seats without opposition.

Doris Arthur, Mary Johnson, and Sheryl McCormick received 233, 227, and 222 courtesy votes, respectively.

Beth Vick, on the ballot for the remainder of the term to which she was appointed, received 253

votes but has indicated that she will not serve after taking a position in town hall. The board will advertise the vacancy for interest and appoint a replacement at a future meeting.

Election officials were positively surprised by the turnout on election day, when 4,981 ballots were cast compared to just under 4,000 in early voting.

In past November elections, early turnout has surpassed election day turnout.

Some polling places had voters still in line at 7 p.m. Poll workers noted that voting took longer at several precincts due to the length of the constitutional amendments and voters reading them for the first time in the voting booth.

In total, 42 percent of registered voters went to the polls.

Each of the four constitutional amendments passed with ease in the county. Amendments 1 and 3, right to work and the removal of slavery from the state constitution, both garnered more than 70 percent of the vote. Amendments 2 and 4, setting up a succession plan if the governor is incapacitated and removing a prohibition on ministers serving in the legislature, both received more than 60 percent of the vote.

Leadership Marshall returns

The 2022-2023 Leadership Marshall Class came together for orientation on September 22 with seventeen members in attendance. Lynda Potts, volunteer coordinator of the program since 1995, conducted a full day of activities for the group in the large meeting room at the Lewisburg Gas Department. The program involves nine sessions, one session per month from September through May, and includes Orientation, History Day, Health Services Day, County Government Day, Industry Day, Education Day, State Government Day, City Government Day, and Graduation. Other than these scheduled days participants are asked to do four extra curricula activities, which may involve attending a city or county meeting, a performance at the Dixie, a church service outside their own denomination, or any committee meeting that would help them understand the workings of a community. Applications are received year-round at the Marshall County Chamber of Commerce, the sponsoring agent of Leadership Marshall. This year's participants include representatives from banks, small businesses, utilities, communications, county government, social services,



Photography by Ryan Walker
The 2022-2023 Leadership Marshall Class: from left, back row: Anthony Dalton, Rob Wiles, Kevin Miller, Roscoe Brannon, Jesse Pruitt. Second row: Chelsea Raymer, Cathey Allen, Angela Wilsford, Jennifer Sienes, Jennifer Neill. Seated: Amber Bagsby, Jerri Agent, Amala Taylor, Amy Maxey, Traci Evans, Nancy Singleton. In front Joe Marchesoni, who received the "Social Butterfly" Award from the Orientation Class.

and the medical field.

The Leadership Marshall Class of 2022-2023 includes the following: Jerri Agent, Licensed Massage Therapist, Healing Arts Center; Cathy Allen, Lab Technician, Lewisburg Water and Wastewater; Amber Bagsby, Outreach Coordinator, Haven of Hope; Roscoe Brannon, Maintenance Supervisor, Lewisburg Water and Wastewater; Anthony Dalton, Owner/Artist, Sparrow Tattoo and Piercing; Traci Evans, Human Resource Manager, Ace Casual Furniture; Joe Marchesoni, Business Sales Manager, United Communications; Amy Maxey, Teller, First Commerce Bank of Chapel Hill; Kevin Miller, General Foreman, Lewisburg Electric Service; Jennifer Neill, Chief Deputy, Marshall County Register of Deeds; Jesse Pruitt, Loan Officer, First Commerce Bank of Chapel Hill; Chelsea Raymer, Manager of Talent Acquisition and Employee Development, United Communications; Jennifer Sienes, Published Author; Nancy Singleton, Financial Services Representative, Heritage South CCU; Amala Taylor, Probation Officer, Marshall County Probation Office; Rob Wiles, Vice-President, Lending, First Commerce Bank; and Angela Wilsford, Lead Technologist, Centennial Imaging Center of Nashville.

For the roses

By **Hannah Davis**
Tribune Correspondent

After almost 23 years of business, Lewisburg's favorite florist, 4-Ever Flowers, is closing on November 19. The owner, Angie Binkley, has owned the shop for almost 28 years, though has been operating out of the Lewisburg location since 2011. Though she has enjoyed owning the business for so long, Binkley has decided that it's time to step away from the demands of being a florist. According to Binkley, the decision to close the shop after all this time has come about because of her coming to terms with the very human reality of aging as well as acknowledging that time is the one truly nonrenewable resource of one's life.

"I'm ready to slow down and spend time with my grand babies. I never got to go on field trips or go eat school lunches with them. I'm ready to do that," said Binkley on retiring from 4-Ever Flowers.

The death of her ex-husband, David, in June 2022, was a wakeup call for Angie Binkley. It didn't take long for her to realize that she wanted to take a more active role in her own family member's lives.

"You know, I realized then that we don't have much time left," said Binkley.

According to Binkley, the decision was difficult in that returning her time to her grandchildren and children meant ending her time with the family that she had found in the community throughout her years of owning 4-Ever Flowers. For Binkley, being a florist wasn't just a job.

"I've helped girls get married and I've helped those same girls bury

their babies," said Binkley.

As she steps away from the business, she'll miss the opportunity to be involved in people's most memorable occasions. Binkley first opened the business in January 2002, in the Columbia strip mall, a location chosen because of her father-in-law's previous law offices. From the beginning, the business was centered around family. Though she moved the business to several different locations before landing in the current Lewisburg location on 3rd Avenue, for Angie Binkley, 4-Ever Flowers was a hub for integrating her family with the community. Over the years, her daughter, Chelsea, son, Devin, past husband, David, and her new husband have all worked at 4-Ever Flowers to achieve Binkley's dreams of having a hand in people's unforgettable events. In that time, she has been part of innumerable moments.

"It's a part of being a florist that maybe people don't think about," said Binkley.

When asked what Binkley's favorite memory of the past 28 years of business has been, she couldn't think of one, but she did admit that the community has made her feel like she is a part of their family, no matter for how short of a time.

Binkley's business 4-Ever Flowers will celebrate its last day of business on November 19. Until then, they are celebrating with sales on the remaining inventory. Customers are welcome to stop by the business in Lewisburg to get a head start on their holiday decorations or simply to express their gratitude to Binkley and her family's dedication to the community over the years.



VETERANS DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY FRIDAY